



AmeriCorps*VISTA: The Cost-Share Partnership
Your opportunity to turn ideas into action.

Does your organization need time, energy, and resources to address that unmet need in your community?

AmeriCorps*VISTA can help you tackle those dream projects that you never have time to turn into reality. The Cost-Share Partnership is an inexpensive way to provide the people power that your organization needs to help create or expand programming to respond to the needs voiced by your community.

AmeriCorps*VISTA...Bringing individuals and communities out of poverty.

For 40 years, AmeriCorps*VISTA has been building permanent infrastructure to help organizations more effectively bring communities and individuals out of poverty. Today, nearly 6,000 AmeriCorps*VISTA members serve in hundreds of nonprofit organizations and public agencies throughout the country – working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, reduce unemployment, increase housing opportunities, or bridge the digital divide.

In exchange for their year of full-time service, AmeriCorps*VISTA members receive a modest living allowance along with health coverage, training, travel and relocation expenses. When members complete their service, they receive either an education award of \$4,725 that they can use to help pay for further schooling in a degree program or vocational training or to pay off qualified student loans, or a \$1,200 stipend.

How It Works ...An express approach to starting an AmeriCorps*VISTA project

The Cost-Share Partnership is a quick, easy, and low-cost way to leverage the human resources needed to jump-start new anti-poverty projects without encountering the complexities and overhead costs associated with start-up or expansion. As a Cost-Share Partner, your organization contributes the living allowance—about \$9,500—for each AmeriCorps*VISTA member. In return, AmeriCorps*VISTA covers the cost of a series of benefits and services for the AmeriCorps*VISTA members and your organization.

What You Give	What You Get
<i>Your Organization</i>	<i>AmeriCorps*VISTA</i>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The living allowance – approximately \$10,380 per member (varies depending on cost-of-living adjustments). | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$4,725 education award or \$1,200 post-service stipend.• Health coverage for all members assigned to your project – approximately \$1,600 per member.• Payroll services: Members receive their paychecks directly from AmeriCorps*VISTA.• Training in project management and leadership for members and project supervisor.• Travel costs associated with training.• Moving allowance for members relocating to serve.• Liability coverage for all members, under the Federal Employees Compensation Act and the Federal Torts Claims Act.• Child care for income-eligible members.• FICA• Assistance with recruiting members. |
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Estimated total contribution: \$10,000

*"One cannot speak of community and neighborhood development in Burlington and around the state without acknowledging the incredible efforts of the City's AmeriCorps*VISTA members. Our cost-share program has proven extremely successful and effective, with area nonprofit agencies contributing greatly to the overall success of the program."*
Peter Clavelle, Mayor- Burlington, Vermont

AmeriCorps*VISTA Gets Results.

According to studies and evaluations conducted in recent years:

- For every dollar a cost-share partner contributes, \$5.63 is generated in effort and accomplishments.
- AmeriCorps*VISTA members have helped their sponsoring organizations generate an additional \$50 million cash annually—an average of \$50,000 per AmeriCorps*VISTA project.
- AmeriCorps*VISTA members annually recruit more than 200,000 volunteers, who provide more than 6 million hours of service to their communities.

No Payment Down!

Your contribution to the Cost-Share Partnership does not need to be provided up front. There are several flexible options for reimbursing AmeriCorps*VISTA for your share.

All public agencies and private nonprofit organizations can apply for an AmeriCorps*VISTA cost-share project. The Cost-Share Partnership is an excellent way to leverage additional funding resources. A foundation or corporate sponsor making a donation to your project can see where its dollars will be matched by AmeriCorps*VISTA. In finding funding for your organization's share of the partnership, consider approaching:

- Community foundations;
- State government funding sources;
- Municipalities and school districts;
- Colleges and universities; and
- Local corporations.

"In our society today, community service is becoming a growing and vital mission of higher education. AmeriCorps cost-share VISTA members represent what we as citizens can accomplish if we put others' needs before our own. Their service and volunteer efforts provide clear examples for all of us regarding what it takes to truly make a difference in our communities. It's an encouragement to know that our nation is producing individuals of this caliber who place such a value on community service and helping their fellow man. Our nation - especially here in Oklahoma - is a lot better place to live thanks to this cost-share program and its remarkable membership."

Dr. Hans Brisch
Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

How Can I Apply?

Contact the Corporation for National and Community Service office in your state. For a directory of those offices, visit http://www.nationalservice.org/about/family/state_offices.html. Or, contact the AmeriCorps*VISTA office in Washington, D.C., at:

(202) 606-5000, ext. 338,

TTY (202) 565-2799

e-mail: vista@cns.gov

www.americorps.org/vista/costshare.html

www.americorps.org

*AmeriCorps*VISTA is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Created in 1993, the Corporation for National and Community Service engages more than 1.5 million Americans annually in improving communities through service in Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America..*